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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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Cairo, Egypt
5-13 September 1994

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the Conference.

2. Election of the President.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure.

4. Adoption of the agenda.

5. Election of officers other than the President.

6. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference.

7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:

   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;

   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.

8. Experiences concerning population and development strategies and programmes.

9. Programme of Action of the Conference.

10. Other matters.

11. Adoption of the report of the Conference.

Annotations

1. Opening of the Conference

The International Conference on Population and Development will be convened at the Cairo International Conference Centre, Nasr City, Cairo, on Monday, 5 September 1994.

2. Election of the President

Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference (A/CONF.171/2) provides that the Conference shall elect a President from among the representatives of participating States. Rule 44 provides that all elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate.

3. Adoption of the rules of procedure

The provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.171/2) were approved by the General Assembly in decision 48/490.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the provisional rules of procedure (A/CONF.171/2)

4. Adoption of the agenda

The provisional agenda set out in the present document was endorsed by the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its third session, in April 1994.

5. Election of officers other than the President

Under rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference shall elect, in addition to the President, 27 Vice-Presidents, and an ex officio Vice-President from the host country, a Rapporteur-General and a Chairman for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. Those officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

6. Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference

In its resolution 47/176, the General Assembly endorsed Economic and Social Council resolution 1992/37, in which the Council decided to convene the Conference in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994. In resolution 1993/76, the Council recommended that the Preparatory Committee for the Conference become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly and decided to convene two-day pre-Conference consultations at the venue of the Conference. That Council resolution was endorsed fully by the General Assembly in resolution 48/186.

Rules 46 and 48 of the provisional rules of procedure provide that the Conference may establish a Main Committee, as required, which may set up subcommittees or working groups, subject to the decision of the Plenary of the Conference. Under rule 48, the Conference may establish, in addition to the Main Committee, such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions. According to rule 49, the members of the committees and working groups of the Conference shall be appointed by the

President, subject to the approval of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise. Under the same rule, members of the subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee in question, subject to the approval of that Committee, unless the Committee decides otherwise.

The provisional rules of procedure also provide for the appointment of a Credentials Committee (rule 4) and a General Committee (rules 9-11).

A note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters will be before the Conference for consideration. It will include a proposed timetable for the work of the Conference. The pre-Conference consultations, to take place on 3 and 4 September, are expected to make recommendations to the Conference on the basis of that note.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on organizational and procedural matters (A/CONF.171/3)

7. Credentials of representatives to the Conference:

(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee

Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-eighth session, which consisted of Austria, the Bahamas, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Mauritius, the Russian Federation, Thailand and the United States of America.

(b) Report of the Credentials Committee

In accordance with rule 4, the Credentials Committee shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

8. Experiences concerning population and development strategies and programmes

During the general debate on this item, each delegation will be given an opportunity to make a statement on its national experience in the population and development field. The list of speakers will be closed at 12 noon on Wednesday, 7 September 1994, at Cairo.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the fourth review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action (A/CONF.171/4)

Report of the Secretary-General containing a synthesis of the national reports of countries on their experiences concerning population and development strategies and programmes (A/CONF.171/5)

9. Programme of action of the Conference

At its third session, the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development considered the chapters of the draft programme of action of the conference (A/CONF.171/PC/5), which had been prepared on the basis of the proposed conceptual framework of the draft recommendations of the Conference (E/CONF.84/PC/11); the Chairman's summary concerning the conceptual framework, contained in the annex to Economic and Social Council decision 1993/323; the annotated outline of the final document of the Conference (A/48/430/Add.1, annex); the reports and recommendations of the six expert group meetings convened in preparation for the Conference (E/CONF.84/PC/4-9) and of the regional population conferences (E/CONF.84/PC/13-17); and the results of the fourth review and appraisal of the World Population Plan of Action (A/CONF.171/PC/3). Also taken into account were the views of delegations and other participants at the first and second sessions of the Preparatory Committee, at the 1992 and 1993 substantive sessions of the Economic and Social Council and at the forty-seventh and forty-eighth sessions of the General Assembly; the reports and recommendations of the subregional population conferences, round-table meetings and other meetings convened in preparation for the Conference; informal consultations with Governments; and substantive comments and suggestions of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

In the course of its third session, the Preparatory Committee held informal consultations on the draft chapters contained in document A/CONF.171/PC/5, which resulted in draft texts submitted by the Chairman of Working Group I (for chapters III, XI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV and XVI), the Chairman of Working Group II (for chapters IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX and X) and the Chairman of the Preparatory Committee (for chapters I and II). The revised draft texts were issued in documents A/CONF.171/PC/L.3-10 and Add.1 and L.11-16). At its 30th to 34th meetings, the Preparatory Committee considered and approved for transmittal to the Conference, as orally revised and amended and subject to further consideration of the bracketed parts, the draft programme of action of the Conference.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat transmitting the draft programme of action of the International Conference on Population and Development (A/CONF.171/L.1)

Document for information

Report of the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development on its third session (A/CONF.171/PC/9)

10. Other matters

11. Adoption of the report of the Conference

The Conference will adopt a report of its activities, a draft of which will be prepared by the Rapporteur-General and presented to the Conference for its approval.

UNITED
NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Cairo, Egypt
5-13 September 1994

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Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Provisional rules of procedure

Note by the Secretariat

The provisional rules of procedure for the International Conference on Population and Development, as approved by the Preparatory Committee for the Conference at its third session and by the General Assembly in its decision 48/490 of 14 July 1994, are submitted to the Conference for adoption.

* A/CONF.171/1.

PROVISIONAL RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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I. REPRESENTATION AND CREDENTIALS

Composition of delegations

Rule 1

Each State participating in the Conference and the European Community shall be represented by a head of delegation and such other representatives, alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Alternates and advisers

Rule 2

The head of delegation may designate an alternate representative or an adviser to act as a representative.

Credentials

Rule 3

The credentials of representatives and the names of alternate representatives and advisers shall be submitted to the Secretary-General of the Conference, if possible not less than one week before the date fixed for the opening of the Conference. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or, in the case of the European Community, by the President of the European Commission.

Credentials Committee

Rule 4

A Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference. Its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-eighth session. It shall examine the credentials of representatives and report to the Conference without delay.

Provisional participation in the Conference

Rule 5

Pending a decision of the Conference upon their credentials, representatives shall be entitled to participate provisionally in the Conference.

II. OFFICERS

Elections

Rule 6

The Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: a President, 27 Vice-Presidents, and an ex officio Vice-President from the host country, a Rapporteur-General, as well as a Chairman for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. These officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Acting President

Rule 7

1. If the President is absent from a meeting or any part thereof, he/she shall designate a Vice-President to take his/her place.

2. A Vice-President acting as President shall have the same powers and duties as the President.

Voting rights of the President

Rule 8

The President, or a Vice-President acting as President, shall not vote in the Conference, but shall appoint another member of his/her delegation to vote in his/her place.

III. GENERAL COMMITTEE

Composition

Rule 9

The President, the Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General and the Chairman of the Main Committee shall constitute the General Committee. The President, or in his/her absence, one of the Vice-Presidents designated by him/her, shall serve as Chairman of the General Committee. The Chairman of the Credentials Committee may participate, without the right to vote, in the General Committee.

Substitute members

Rule 10

If the President or a Vice-President of the Conference is to be absent during a meeting of the General Committee, he may designate a member of his delegation to sit and vote in the Committee. In the case of absence, the Chairman of the Main Committee shall designate the Vice-Chairman of that Committee as his substitute. When serving on the General Committee, a Vice-Chairman of the Main Committee shall not have the right to vote if he is of the same delegation as another member of the General Committee.

Functions

Rule 11

The General Committee shall assist the President in the general conduct of the business of the Conference and, subject to the decisions of the Conference, shall ensure the coordination of its work.

IV. SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE

Duties of the Secretary-General of the Conference

Rule 12

1. The Secretary-General of the Conference shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference and its subsidiary organs.

2. The Secretary-General of the Conference may designate a member of the secretariat to act in her place at those meetings.

3. The Secretary-General of the Conference shall direct the staff required by the Conference.

Duties of the secretariat

Rule 13

The secretariat of the Conference shall, in accordance with these rules:

(a) Interpret speeches made at meetings;

(b) Receive, translate, reproduce and circulate the documents of the Conference;

(c) Publish and circulate the official documents of the Conference;

(d) Prepare and circulate records of public meetings;

(e) Make and arrange for the keeping of sound recordings of meetings;

(f) Arrange for the custody and preservation of the documents of the Conference in the archives of the United Nations;

(g) Generally perform all other work that the Conference may require.

Statements by the secretariat

Rule 14

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Secretary-General of the Conference or any member of the secretariat designated by either for that purpose may, at any time, make oral or written statements concerning any question under consideration.

V. OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

Temporary President

Rule 15

At the opening of the first meeting of the Conference, the Secretary-General of the United Nations or, in his absence, the Secretary-General of the Conference shall preside until the Conference has elected its President.

Decisions concerning organization

Rule 16

1. The Conference shall at its first meeting:

(a) Adopt its rules of procedure;

(b) Elect its officers and constitute its subsidiary organs;

(c) Adopt its agenda, the draft of which shall, until such adoption, be the provisional agenda of the Conference;

(d) Decide on the organization of its work.

2. Recommendations resulting from pre-conference consultations shall, in principle, be acted on without further discussion.

VI. CONCLUSIONS OF THE CONFERENCE

Report

Rule 17

The Conference shall adopt a report, the draft of which shall be prepared by the Rapporteur-General.

VII. CONDUCT OF BUSINESS

Quorum

Rule 18

The President may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one third of the representatives of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of such States shall be required for any decision to be taken.

General powers of the President

Rule 19

1. In addition to exercising the powers conferred upon him/her elsewhere by these rules, the President shall preside at the plenary meetings of the Conference; he/she shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these rules, accord the right to speak, put questions to the vote and announce decisions. He/she shall rule on points of order. The President, subject to these rules, shall have complete control of the proceedings and over the maintenance of order thereat. The President may propose to the Conference the closing of the list of speakers, a limitation on the time to be allowed to speakers and on the number of times the representative of each participant in the Conference may speak on a question, the adjournment or the closure of the debate and the suspension or the adjournment of a meeting.

2. The President, in the exercise of his/her functions, remains under the authority of the Conference.

Points of order

Rule 20

During the discussion of any matter, a representative may at any time raise a point of order, which shall be immediately decided by the President in accordance with these rules. A representative may appeal against the ruling of the President. The appeal shall be immediately put to the vote, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the

representatives present and voting. A representative may not, in raising a point of order, speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Speeches

Rule 21

1. No one may address the Conference without having previously obtained the permission of the President. Subject to rules 20, 22 and 24 to 27, the President shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.

2. Debate shall be confined to the question before the Conference and the President may call a speaker to order if his/her remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

3. The Conference may limit the time allowed to speakers and the number of times participants may speak on a question. Permission to speak on a motion to set such limits shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and two opposing such limits, after which the motion shall immediately be put to the vote. In any event, with the consent of the Conference, the President shall limit each intervention on procedural matters to five minutes. When the debate is limited and a speaker exceeds the allotted time, the President shall call him/her to order without delay.

Precedence

Rule 22

The Chairman or Rapporteur of the Main Committee or the representative of a subcommittee or working group may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the conclusions arrived at by the body concerned.

Closing of the list of speakers

Rule 23

During the course of a debate, the President may announce the list of speakers and, with the consent of the Conference, declare the list closed.

Right of reply

Rule 24

1. Notwithstanding rule 23, the President shall accord the right of reply to a representative of any State participating in the Conference or of the European Community who requests it. Any other representative may be granted the opportunity to make a reply.

2. The statements made under this rule shall normally be made at the end of the last meeting of the day, or at the conclusion of the consideration of the relevant item, if that is sooner.

3. The representatives of a State or of the European Community may make no more than two statements under this rule at a given meeting on any item. The first shall be limited to five minutes and the second to three minutes; representatives shall in any event attempt to be as brief as possible.

Adjournment of debate

Rule 25

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the adjournment of the debate on the question under discussion. In addition to the proposer of the motion, permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour and two opposing the adjournment, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Closure of debate

Rule 26

A representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the closure of the debate on the question under discussion, whether or not any other representative has signified his/her wish to speak. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives opposing the closure, after which the motion shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Suspension or adjournment of the meeting

Rule 27

Subject to rule 39, a representative of any State participating in the Conference may at any time move the suspension or the adjournment of the meeting. No discussion on such motions shall be permitted and they shall, subject to rule 28, be immediately put to the vote.

Order of motions

Rule 28

The motions indicated below shall have precedence in the following order over all proposals or other motions before the meeting:

(a) To suspend the meeting;

(b) To adjourn the meeting;

(c) To adjourn the debate on the question under discussion;

(d) To close the debate on the question under discussion.

Submissions of proposals and substantive amendments

Rule 29

Proposals and substantive amendments shall normally be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General of the Conference, who shall circulate copies to all delegations. Unless the Conference decides otherwise, substantive proposals shall be discussed or put to a decision no earlier than 24 hours after copies have been circulated in all languages of the Conference to all delegations. The President may, however, permit the discussion and consideration of amendments, even though these amendments have not been circulated or have only been circulated the same day.

Withdrawal of proposals and motions

Rule 30

A proposal or a motion may be withdrawn by its sponsor at any time before voting on it has commenced, provided that it has not been amended. A proposal or a motion thus withdrawn may be reintroduced by any representative.

Decisions on competence

Rule 31

Any motion calling for a decision on the competence of the Conference to adopt a proposal submitted to it shall be put to the vote before a vote is taken on the proposal in question.

Reconsideration of proposals

Rule 32

When a proposal has been adopted or rejected, it may not be reconsidered unless the Conference, by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, so decides. Permission to speak on a motion to reconsider shall be accorded to only two speakers opposing reconsideration, after which the motion shall be immediately put to the vote.

VIII. DECISION-MAKING

General agreement

Rule 33

The Conference should make best endeavours to ensure that its work and the adoption of its report are accomplished by general agreement.

Voting rights

Rule 34

Each State participating in the Conference shall have one vote.

Majority required

Rule 35

1. Subject to rule 33, decisions of the Conference on all matters of substance shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting.

2. Except as otherwise provided in these rules, decisions of the Conference on all matters of procedure shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting.

3. If the question arises whether a matter is one of procedure or of substance, the President of the Conference shall rule on the question. An appeal against this ruling shall be put to the vote immediately, and the President's ruling shall stand unless overruled by a majority of the representatives present and voting.

4. If a vote is equally divided, the proposal or motion shall be regarded as rejected.

Meaning of the phrase "representatives present and voting"

Rule 36

For the purpose of these rules, the phrase "representatives present and voting" means representatives casting an affirmative or negative vote. Representatives who abstain from voting shall be regarded as not voting.

Method of voting

Rule 37

1. Except as provided in rule 44, the Conference shall normally vote by show of hands, except that a representative may request a roll-call, which shall then be taken in the English alphabetical order of the names of the States participating in the Conference, beginning with the delegation whose name is drawn by lot by the President. The name of each State shall be called in all roll-calls and its representative shall reply "yes", "no" or "abstention".

2. When the Conference votes by mechanical means, a non-recorded vote shall replace a vote by show of hands and a recorded vote shall replace a roll-call. A representative may request a recorded vote, which shall, unless a representative requests otherwise, be taken without calling out the names of the States participating in the Conference.

3. The vote of each State participating in a roll-call or a recorded vote shall be inserted in any record of or report on the meeting.

Explanation of vote

Rule 38

Representatives may make brief statements consisting solely of explanations of vote, before the voting has commenced or after the voting has been completed. The President may limit the time to be allowed for such explanations. The representative of a State sponsoring a proposal or motion shall not speak in explanation of vote thereon, except if it has been amended.

Conduct during voting

Rule 39

After the President has announced the commencement of voting, no representative shall interrupt the voting except on a point of order in connection with the process of voting.

Division of proposals

Rule 40

A representative may move that parts of a proposal be voted on separately. If a representative objects, the motion for division shall be voted upon. Permission to speak on the motion shall be accorded to only two representatives in favour of and two opposing the division. If the motion is carried, those parts of the proposal that are subsequently approved shall be put to the vote as a whole. If all operative parts of the proposal have been rejected, the proposal shall be considered to have been rejected as a whole.

Amendments

Rule 41

A proposal is considered an amendment to another proposal if it merely adds to, deletes from or revises part of that proposal. Unless specified otherwise, the word "proposal" in these rules shall be considered as including amendments.

Order of voting on amendments

Rule 42

When an amendment is moved to a proposal, the amendment shall be voted on first. When two or more amendments are moved to a proposal, the Conference shall vote first on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed therefrom and so on until all the amendments have been put to the vote. Where, however, the adoption of one amendment necessarily implies the rejection of another amendment, the latter shall not be put to the vote. If one or more amendments are adopted, the amended proposal shall then be voted upon.

Order of voting on proposals

Rule 43

1. If two or more proposals, other than amendments, relate to the same question, they shall, unless the Conference decides otherwise, be voted on in the order in which they were submitted. The Conference may, after each vote on a proposal, decide whether to vote on the next proposal.

2. Revised proposals shall be voted on in the order in which the original proposals were submitted, unless the revision substantially departs from the original proposal. In that case, the original proposal shall be considered as withdrawn and the revised proposal shall be treated as a new proposal.

3. A motion requiring that no decision be taken on a proposal shall be put to the vote before a decision is taken on the proposal in question.

Elections

Rule 44

All elections shall be held by secret ballot unless, in the absence of any objection, the Conference decides to proceed without taking a ballot when there is an agreed candidate or slate.

Rule 45

1. When one or more elective places are to be filled at one time under the same conditions, those candidates, in a number not exceeding the number of such places, obtaining in the first ballot a majority of the votes cast and the largest number of votes, shall be elected.

2. If the number of candidates obtaining such a majority is less than the number of places to be filled, additional ballots shall be held to fill the remaining places.

IX. SUBSIDIARY BODIES

Main Committee and working groups

Rule 46

The Conference may establish a Main Committee, as required, which may set up subcommittees or working groups. The Main Committee, unless it decides otherwise, shall elect three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur.

Representation on the Main Committee

Rule 47

Each State participating in the Conference and the European Community may be represented by one representative on the Main Committee. It may assign to the Committee such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required.

Other committees and working groups

Rule 48

1. In addition to the Main Committee referred to above, the Conference may establish such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

2. Subject to the decision of the Plenary or the Conference, the Main Committee may set up subcommittees and working groups.

Rule 49

1. The members of the committees and working groups of the Conference, referred to in rule 48, paragraph 1, shall be appointed by the President, subject to the approval of the Conference, unless the Conference decides otherwise.

2. Members of the subcommittees and working groups of committees shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee in question, subject to the approval of that Committee, unless the Committee decides otherwise.

Officers

Rule 50

Except as otherwise provided in rule 6, each committee, subcommittee and working group shall elect its own officers.

Quorum

Rule 51

1. The Chairman of the Main Committee may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when representatives of at least one quarter of the States participating in the Conference are present. The presence of representatives of a majority of the States so participating shall be required for any decision to be taken.

2. A majority of the representatives of the General or Credentials Committee or of any committee, subcommittee or working group shall constitute a quorum provided that they are representatives of participating States.

Officers, conduct of business and voting

Rule 52

The rules relating to officers (rules 6 to 8), the secretariat of the Conference (rules 12 to 14), the conduct of business of the Conference (rules 18 to 32), decision-making (rules 33 to 45) and other participants and observers (rules 59 to 66) shall be applicable, *mutatis mutandis*, to the proceedings of the Main Committee and working groups, except that:

(a) Unless otherwise decided, the Credentials Committee and any working group shall elect a Chairman and such other officers as it may require;

(b) The Chairman of the General Committee and of the Credentials Committee and the chairmen of working groups may exercise the right to vote;

(c) A majority of the representatives on the General Committee or Credentials Committee or any working group shall constitute a quorum; the Chairman of the Main Committee may declare a meeting open and permit the debate to proceed when at least one quarter of the representatives of the States participating in the Conference are present;

(d) Decisions of committees and working groups shall be taken by a majority of the representatives present and voting, except that the

reconsideration of a proposal or an amendment shall require the majority established by rule 32, provided that they are representatives of participating States.

X. LANGUAGES AND RECORDS

Languages of the Conference

Rule 53

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be the languages of the Conference.

Interpretation

Rule 54

1. Speeches made in a language of the Conference shall be interpreted into the other such languages.

2. A representative may speak in a language other than a language of the Conference if the delegation concerned provides for interpretation into one such language. Interpretation into the other languages of the Conference by interpreters of the secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.

Languages of official documents

Rule 55

Official documents of the Conference shall be made available in the languages of the Conference.

Records of meetings

Rule 56

1. There shall be neither verbatim nor summary records of meetings.

2. Sound recordings of meetings of the Conference and of the Main Committee shall be made and kept in accordance with the practice of the United Nations. Unless otherwise decided by the Conference or the Main Committee, no such recordings shall be made of the meetings of any working group thereof.

XI. PUBLIC AND PRIVATE MEETINGS

General principles

Rule 57

1. The plenary meetings of the Conference and the meetings of any Committee shall be held in public unless the body concerned decides otherwise.

2. All decisions taken by the Plenary of the Conference at a private meeting shall be announced at an early public meeting of the Plenary.

Communiqués on private meetings

Rule 58

At the close of a private meeting, the presiding officer of the organ concerned may issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General of the Conference.

XII. OTHER PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS

Representatives of organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate, in the capacity of observers, in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices

Rule 59

Representatives designated by organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices have the right to participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

Associate members of regional commissions

Rule 60

Representatives designated by associate members of regional commissions may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group.

Representatives of national liberation movements

Rule 61

Representatives of national liberation movements invited to the Conference may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on any matter of particular concern to those movements.

Representatives of the specialized agencies 1/

Rule 62

Representatives designated by the specialized agencies may participate, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of other intergovernmental organizations

Rule 63

Save where otherwise specifically provided with respect to the European Community in these rules of procedure, representatives designated by other intergovernmental organizations invited to the Conference may participate as observers without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

Representatives of interested United Nations organs

Rule 64

Representatives designated by interested organs of the United Nations may participate as observers, without the right to vote, in the deliberations of the Conference, the Main Committee and, as appropriate, any other committee or working group on questions within the scope of their activities.

1/ For the purpose of these rules, the term "specialized agencies" includes the International Atomic Energy Agency and the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations

Rule 65

1. Non-governmental organizations accredited to participate in the Conference may designate representatives to sit as observers at public meetings of the Conference and the Main Committee.

2. Upon the invitation of the presiding officer of the conference body concerned and subject to the approval of that body, such observers may make oral statements on questions in which they have special competence. If the number of requests to speak is too large, the non-governmental organizations shall be requested to form themselves into constituencies, such constituencies to speak through spokespersons.

Written statements

Rule 66

Written statements submitted by the designated representatives referred to in rules 59 to 65 shall be distributed by the secretariat to all delegations in the quantities and in the language in which the statements are made available to it at the site of the Conference, provided that a statement submitted on behalf of a non-governmental organization is related to the work of the Conference and is on a subject in which the organization has a special competence. Written statements shall not be made at United Nations expense and shall not be issued as official documents.

XIII. SUSPENSION AND AMENDMENT OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

Method of suspension

Rule 67

Any of these rules may be suspended by the Conference provided that 24 hours' notice of the proposal for the suspension has been given, which may be waived if no representative objects. Any such suspension shall be limited to a specific and stated purpose and to a period required to achieve that purpose.

Method of amendment

Rule 68

These rules of procedure may be amended by a decision of the Conference taken by a two-thirds majority of the representatives present and voting, after the General Committee has reported on the proposed amendment.

UNITED
NATIONS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

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Item 6 of the provisional agenda*

ORGANIZATION OF WORK, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE

Organizational and procedural matters

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its 34th meeting, on 22 April 1994, the Preparatory Committee for the International Conference on Population and Development approved the provisional agenda and proposed organization of work for the Conference contained in document A/CONF.171/PC/L.2, with the addition of an item entitled "Other matters". At the same meeting, the Committee also decided to transmit the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference contained in document A/CONF.171/PC/8, as orally amended, to the General Assembly for approval. The General Assembly approved the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference in decision 48/490. The proposals contained herein have been prepared on the basis of the above-mentioned documents.

I. PRE-CONFERENCE CONSULTATIONS

2. The Economic and Social Council, in resolution 1992/37, decided to convene the Conference in Cairo from 5 to 13 September 1994. In resolution 1993/76, the Council recommended that the Preparatory Committee for the Conference become a subsidiary body of the General Assembly and decided to convene two-day pre-Conference consultations at the venue of the Conference. The General Assembly, in resolution 48/186, endorsed fully Council resolution 1993/76. The pre-Conference consultations will take place on 3 and 4 September 1994. The purpose of the consultations, which will be open to all participating States, is to reach final agreement on recommendations to be made on all procedural and organizational matters to be dealt with by the Conference at the opening meeting, including the election of officers, the composition of the General Committee, the distribution of posts in the General Committee among regional

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* A/CONF.171/1.

groups, the adoption of the rules of procedure, the adoption of the agenda and organization of work, the appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee and arrangements for the preparation of the report of the Conference.

II. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

3. Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure for the Conference (A/CONF.171/2) provides that the Conference shall elect from among the representatives of participating States the following officers: a President, 27 Vice-Presidents, an ex officio Vice-President from the host country, a Rapporteur-General and a Chairman for the Main Committee established in accordance with rule 46. Those officials shall be elected on the basis of ensuring the representative character of the General Committee. The Conference may also elect such other officers as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

4. Rule 9 provides that the Conference will have a General Committee composed of the President, the Vice-Presidents, the Rapporteur-General and the Chairman of the Main Committee. In accordance with standard practice, the Presidency of the Conference would go to the host country. The 27 Vice-Presidents would be distributed according to the following geographical pattern: seven representatives from African States, six from Asian States, three from Eastern European States, five from Latin American and Caribbean States and six from Western European and other States.

5. Regional groups should endeavour to ensure that they will be in a position to make known their nominations for the posts in the General Committee at the pre-Conference consultations.

III. ADOPTION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE

6. The Conference will have before it the provisional rules of procedure approved by the General Assembly in decision 48/490. The provisional rules of procedure are contained in document A/CONF.171/2.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

7. The Preparatory Committee recommended for adoption by the Conference the provisional agenda set out in document A/CONF.171/1.

V. ORGANIZATION OF WORK, INCLUDING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE MAIN COMMITTEE OF THE CONFERENCE

A. Organization of work

8. In accordance with the proposed organization of work of the Conference, which was approved by the Preparatory Committee, the Conference will be composed of a plenary and one main committee.

B. Allocation of items

9. It is proposed that items 1-8, 10 and 11 of the provisional agenda be considered in plenary meeting, and that item 9 (Programme of Action of the Conference) be allocated to the Main Committee. Negotiations on the Programme of Action will be carried out in the Main Committee while the general debate on item 8 is taking place in plenary meeting. Upon the conclusion of its work, the Main Committee will submit a report to the Conference.

C. General debate

10. The general debate on item 8 (Experiences concerning population and development strategies and programmes) will take place from the afternoon of 5 September to 9 September. No delegation will be allowed to speak more than once in the general debate.

11. It is proposed that a time-limit of 10 minutes be established for statements by representatives of Governments, 7 minutes for statements by representatives of intergovernmental organizations and United Nations programmes and specialized agencies, and 5 minutes for statements by representatives of non-governmental organizations.

D. Establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference

12. The Main Committee of the Conference will meet from the afternoon of 5 September to 9 September. Its Chairman will be elected by the Conference in accordance with the provisions of rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference. In accordance with the provisions of rule 50, the Main Committee will elect its own officers. It is proposed that, in accordance with rule 46 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Conference, the Main Committee elect three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur on the basis of equitable geographical distribution. It is recommended that agreement be reached on the slate of candidates for posts falling within the ambit of the Main Committee before the opening of the Conference, thus permitting elections by acclamation and dispensing with the requirement of a secret ballot.

E. Timetable for the work of the Conference

13. The proposed timetable for the work of the Conference is contained in the annex to the present note. It is understood that the Main Committee will adjust its organization of work as required.

F. Organization of meetings

14. The resources available to the Conference allow for a maximum of two simultaneous meetings in the morning and two in the afternoon, with interpretation facilities, including committees, subcommittees, working groups and informal consultations. Interpretation facilities can be provided to

regional or interest group meetings only when these are held in place of formal meetings.

15. In accordance with the provisions of rule 48 of the provisional rules of procedure, the Conference may establish such committees and working groups as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions. Subject to the decision of the Plenary of the Conference, the Main Committee may also set up subcommittees and working groups. It should be noted, however, that committees, subcommittees and working groups can be established only to the extent permitted by the conference service facilities available at the Conference site.

16. Meetings will normally be scheduled from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. In order to ensure the most efficient use of available resources, it is essential that all meetings start promptly at the time scheduled.

VI. CREDENTIALS OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CONFERENCE: APPOINTMENT OF THE MEMBERS OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

17. Rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure provides that a Credentials Committee of nine members shall be appointed at the beginning of the Conference and that its composition shall be based on that of the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its forty-eighth session.

18. At the forty-eighth session of the General Assembly, the Credentials Committee was composed of Austria, the Bahamas, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Ecuador, Mauritius, the Russian Federation, Thailand and the United States of America.

VII. REPORT OF THE CONFERENCE

19. In accordance with the practice followed at previous United Nations conferences, it is recommended that the report of the Conference consist of the decisions of the Conference, a brief account of the proceedings and a repertorial account of the work of the Main Committee and of the action taken in plenary meeting on its recommendations.

20. As has also been the practice, it is recommended that each regional group be requested to designate, before the opening of the Conference, two persons to serve as friends of the Rapporteur-General to assist in preparing the draft report of the Conference.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE FOR THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

First week (3-9 September)

Saturday, 3 September and Sunday, 4 September		Pre-Conference consultations
		PLENARY
Monday, 5 September		
10 a.m.	Item 1	Opening of the Conference
	Item 2	Election of the President
	Item 3	Adoption of the rules of procedure
	Item 4	Adoption of the agenda
	Item 5	Election of officers other than the President
	Item 6	Organization of work, including the establishment of the Main Committee of the Conference
	Item 7 a/	Credentials of representatives to the Conference:
		(a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee
3 p.m.	Item 8	Experiences concerning population and development strategies and programmes
		General debate
	Item 8	General debate (continued)
Tuesday, 6 September		
10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 8	General debate (continued)

a/ Item 7 (b), "Report of the Credentials Committee", will be scheduled for consideration in plenary meeting at a date to be determined.

Wednesday, 7 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 8 General debate (continued)

12 noon Closure of the list of speakers on item 8

Thursday, 8 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 8 General debate (continued)

Friday, 9 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Item 8 General debate (concluded)

Second week (12 and 13 September)

Monday, 12 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Recommendations of the Main Committee on the Programme of Action of the Conference (item 9 of the provisional agenda)

Tuesday, 13 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Recommendations of the Main Committee (continued)

Item 10 Other matters

Item 11 Adoption of the report of the Conference

Closure of the Conference

MAIN COMMITTEE

First week (5-9 September)

Monday, 5 September

3 p.m.		Election of officers
		Organization of work
	Item 9	Programme of Action of the Conference

Tuesday, 6 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 9	Programme of Action (continued)

Wednesday, 7 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 9	Programme of Action (continued)
6 p.m.	Deadline for submission of draft proposals under item 9	

Thursday, 8 September

10 a.m. and 3 p.m.	Item 9	Programme of Action (continued)

Friday, 9 September

10 a.m.	Item 9	Programme of Action (concluded)
3 p.m.		Action on all outstanding matters
	Completion of the work of the Committee	